



Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0185

sfw

3627/18

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George H. HOFFMAN et al.

Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER  
PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR A DISTRIBUTOR  
INTERFACE IN A SUPPLY CHAIN  
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Appl. No.: 09/815,864

Filing Date: 03/23/2001

Examiner: Elaine L. Gort

Art Unit: 3627

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

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**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.113, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

All of the documents are in English.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

**FEE**

A fee in connection with submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(c) in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date May 27, 2004

By 

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

Complete if Known

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Date Submitted: May 27, 2004

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number	09/815,864
Filing Date	03/23/2001
First Named Inventor	George H. HOFFMAN et al.
Group Art Unit	3627
Examiner Name	Elaine L. Gort
Attorney Docket Number	062834-0185

Sheet 1 of 2

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		5,490,060		Malec et al.	02-06-1996	
		5,898,765		Teglovic et al.	04-27-1999	
		5,914,878		Yamamoto et al.	06-22-1999	
		6,009,407		Garg	12-28-1999	
		6,058,375		Park	05-02-2000	
		6,141,653		Conklin et al.	10-31-2000	
		6,266,652	B1	Godin et al.	07-24-2001	
		6,338,050	B1	Conklin et al.	01-08-2002	
		6,477,513	B1	Walker et al.	11-05-2002	
		6,486,899	B1	Bush, jr.	11-26-2002	
		6,564,226	B1	Dickson et al.	05-13-2003	
		6,622,056	B1	Lindell	09-16-2003	
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		6,697,702	B1	Hahn-Carlson	02-24-2004	
		2002/0016760	A1	Sanjesh	20-07-2002	
		2002/0019761	A1	Lidow	02-14-2002	
		2002/0034673	A1	Bisaka et al.	03-21-2002	
		2002/0069096	A1	Lindoefer et al.	06-06-2002	
		2002/0069028	A1	Merz et al.	06-06-2002	
		2002/0087371	A1	Abendroth	07-04-2002	
		2002/0099598	A1	Eicher, Jr. et al.	07-25-2002	
		2002/0123945	A1	Booth et al.	09-05-2002	
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		2002/0147622	A1	Drolet et al.	10-10-2002	
		2002/0194043	A1	Lidow	12-19-2002	
		2003/0208390	A1	Posner	11-6-2003	
		2003/0208434	A1	Posner	11-6-2003	
		2003/0212610	A1	Duffy et al.	11-13-2003	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		Application Number	09/815,864
		Filing Date	03/23/2001
Date Submitted: May 27, 2004 (use as many sheets as necessary)		First Named Inventor	George H. HOFFMAN et al.
		Group Art Unit	3627
		Examiner Name	Elaine L. Gort
Sheet	2	of	2
		Attorney Docket Number	062834-0185

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>
		PR Newswire: Andersen Consulting Announce Strategic Alliance, Looksmart, September 6, 2000	
		Stephanie Stahl, "A Whopping Inventory Task – Burger King's purchasing agency lures suppliers online to streamline its huge distribution system", INFORMATIONWEEK, 1994	
		John Rendleman, "Burger King Orders AT&T Mail Service", CommunicationsWeek, 1994.	
		Microsoft Computer Dictionary, 4 <sup>th</sup> Edition, Microsoft Press, 1999, pages 167, 242, 334, 421, 443, 444 and 462	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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